

COMPROMISE IN ONTARIO

November 24, 1996 (Fundamental Baptist Information Service, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org) -

The following is from the Canadian Revivalist (1600 Neilson Rd., Scarborough, Ontario M1X 2S3, Canada), Sept.-Oct. 1996 --

Despite the fact that the Roman Catholic Church still adheres to a works religion and has not corrected any of its major doctrinal errors, and that its moral structure is in a sad state of decay, weak evangelicals continue to compromise and flirt with Rome. Here are two further examples.

"THE TORONTO BLESSING"

"The Fishnet" is the official organ of the Ontario Renewal Fellowship, the umbrella group for supporters of the so-called "Toronto Blessing". In the latest issue is a report of meetings held to coincide with the visit of "holy laughter" specialist Rodney Howard-Browne.

On Sunday 18th, August 1996 the Canadian National Exhibition Stadium was rented for a religious extravaganza. At noon, under the title of Healing Power, the Toronto Catholic Services Team held a healing service. The keynote speaker was "Father" Peter Coughlin, priest of St. John's Roman Catholic Church in Burlington, Ontario. The report adds that "One hundred people came forward for salvation".

One is entitled to ask if it was salvation by grace, the Biblical way, or salvation by works Rome's way. It is not a small point, for many of God's choicest Reformation saints sealed their faithful testimony with their life's blood in defence of it.

Following the healing service was the youth event, Power '96. Music was central with "bands such as MANA and RHEMA WORD" drawing as many as 2000 young people.

After this, "thousands ... from across the greater Toronto area gathered to hear" Bud Williams, senior pastor of the Evangel Temple, exhort the people to "intercede for CHRISTIAN UNITY". (Emphasis ours - Ed.). This is the same Bud Williams who, with his wife, went south to get the "holy laughter" blessing from Rodney Howard-Browne, and who made spectacles of themselves lying on the platform in hysterical laughter. Can any sincere believer imagine our Lord doing such a thing? I think not.

SCARBOROUGH PRAYER

In the same "Fishnet" is advertised a Prayer Conference to be held in Churchill Heights Baptist Church in Scarborough. Among the participating groups are listed Bendale Bible Chapel, Dorset Park Baptist, Bridlewood Presbyterian, First Alliance, Wesley Chapel Free Methodist,

Victoria Park United, Scarborough Vineyard Christian Fellowship and St. Ninian's Anglican, the latter two having strong "Toronto Blessing" ties.

DR. GERALD GRIFFITHS was a special speaker at "Ecumenical Lenten Services" sponsored by the Unionville Ministerial Association in March. Griffiths spoke on three successive Sundays on "The Triumph of the Servant". The second Sunday service was held in St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, 5633 Highway #7 in Markham.

Mr. Griffiths is listed as having pastored for a time in Spurgeon's Tabernacle in London before eventually coming to Canada where he ministered to the well-known Calvary Associated Gospel Church on Pape Avenue in Toronto from 1967 to 1990.

Spurgeon would turn in his grave if he knew that a Tabernacle preacher would speak in a Roman Catholic Church.

Mr. Griffiths was involved with the Africa Inland Mission for many years and testified, in the late seventies, against Dr. Bert Oatley-Willis when the latter raised serious questions about the proven ecumenical compromise of the Africa Inland Mission. The upshot was that Dr. Oatley-Willis was expelled from Jarvis Street Baptist Church.

Those who argue about having an opportunity to preach the Gospel in a Roman Catholic Church need just look at the sermon title.

How can anyone who loves the Lord and His Word fellowship in a Church where so much of its doctrine and practice is opposed by the Word of God? God says, "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness" (The Canadian Revivalist, Sept.-Oct. 1996, p. 14).